

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00164 111232Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /031 W

-----116549 112300Z/15

R 111050Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6407

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMCONSUL GENOA

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 0164

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, LE

SUBJECT: BEIRUT PORT 1977 STATISTICS

1. MOVEMENT THROUGH THE PORT OF BEIRUT REBOUNDED REMARKABLY
IN 1977. YEAR-END FIGURES PROVIDED THE EMBASSY BY THE PORT
AUTHORITIES INDICATE TOTAL CARGO TONNAGE DISEMBARKED IN 1977
WAS 54 PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT IN THE PEAK PRE-WAR YEAR OF 1974.
TOTAL SHIPS CALLING REACHED 77 PERCENT AND SHIP TONNAGE 59
PERCENT OF THE 1974 LEVELS. FIGURES INDICATE AVERAGE SHIP
WAS SMALLER IN 1977 THAN IN 1974 AND DISCHARGED SLIGHTLY LOWER
PROPORTION OF ITS TOTAL CARGO IN BEIRUT.

2. DATA FOLLOW:

| (A) | (B) | (A/B) |
|------|------|---------|
| 1977 | 1974 | PERCENT |

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| | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|----|
| CARGO TONS | 2,187,390 | 4,079,387 | 54 |
| SHIPS | 2,783 | 3,612 | 77 |
| SHIP TONS | 3,120,365 | 5,277,359 | 59 |

3. TOTALS CONCEAL REMARKABLE FACT THAT PORT, WITH LESS THAN FIVE
PERCENT OF PRE-WAR COVERED STORAGE (WAREHOUSING), WAS ABLE

DISEMBARK 70 OR MORE PERCENT OF PRE-WAR CARGO VOLUME IN AUGUST, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER AND 89 PERCENT OF PRE-WAR VOLUME IN PEAK MONTH OCTOBER. DESERVED CREDIT GOES TO \$5 MILLION USAID REHABILITATION PROGRAM WHICH PROVIDED CRANES, FORKLIFTS, TAR-PAULINS AND FENDERS BEGINNING APRIL 1977. FIRST OF FOUR USAID WAREHOUSES OPENED FOR BUSINESS IN DECEMBER 1977, WAS NOT A FACTOR IN THESE STATISTICS.

4. GOODS LOADED AT BEIRUT DURING 1977 WERE SHARPLY LOWER AT ABOUT 18 PERCENT OF 1974 LEVEL.

PARKER

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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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